NOTE IX.

SOME NEW SPECIES OF PHYTOPHAGOUS COLEOPTERA FROM BRASIL (COLONY BLUMENAU)[1].

DESCRIBED BY

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Lema nigrilabris, n. sp.

Rufous; antennæ, labrum and legs black; elytra violaceous blue, strongly punctate-striate anteriorly, the 9th row interrupted, the interstices costate at the apex. — Length 4 lines.

Head impunctate, rufous, with the usual grooves of moderate depth; the labrum black; antennæ half the length of the body, entirely black, the fourth joint one half longer than the third; thorax rufous, not longer than broad, deeply constricted at the middle, the base with a deep transverse sulcation; the disc with a few minute punctures placed longitudinally; scutellum rufous; elytra slightly raised at the basal portion but not transversely depressed below the latter, the shoulders deeply longitudinally sulcate within, the punctuation deep at the anterior half, gradually diminishing posteriorly till it disappears entirely at the apex, where the interstices are costate; the ninth row of punctures is interrupted at the sides and costate, in front of this and close to the lateral margin is another very deep longitudinal depression; the underside is reddish fulvous, clothed with short silvery pubescence; the legs are black.

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[1] These species belong to the collection of Mr. Neervoort van de Poll and my own.

This species, although evidently closely allied to *L. violaceipennis* Lac., seems to be distinct from it on account of the entirely black antennæ, labrum and the similarly coloured legs; the elytra are also devoid of a post basalar depression and the interrupted ninth punctured stria is raised in shape of a costa. — Two specimens.

Haltica (Graptodera) modesta, n. sp.

Black; the head, the three basal joints of the antennæ, the thorax and the anterior femora flavous; elytra dark violaceous, extremely finely punctured. — Length $1^1/_2$ line.

Head impunctate; the frontal tubercles rather flattened, the carina sharp and distinct; labrum and palpi black; antennæ about half the length of the body, the three (or four) lower joints flavous, the rest black, the third and fourth equal, scarcely one half longer than the second joint; thorax convex, twice as broad as long, the sides deflexed anteriorly, the lateral margin nearly straight, the posterior slightly lobed at the middle, the anterior angles oblique, forming an indistinct angle before the middle, the surface with a deep transverse and sinuate groove, which is bounded at the sides by a short perpendicular groove, but continues beyond this, upwards for a little distance, the disc entirely impunctate, rather swollen; elytra convex, slightly widened posteriorly, without any basal elevation, very closely and finely punctured, the punctuation distinct to the apices and arranged in very closely approached semiregular lines; underside and the legs black, the anterior femora flavous.

This small species forms part of a group described by the late von Harold which differ from the typical forms of *Haltica* by the possession of a small perpendicular groove in addition to the transverse sulcation of the thorax, as in *Lactica* and *Diphaulaca*, with this difference, that the transverse groove extends upwards along the sides for a little distance. *H. modesta* is closely allied to *H. petulans* Har. and still more closely to *H. parvula* Jac., but differs from the former by the colour of the underside, and from the latter by its larger size and the much more finely punctured elytra. I also possess this species from Para.

Lactica Haroldi, n. sp.

Below piceous; head and the scutellum black, thorax and elytra fulvous, the latter minutely punctured. — Length 1 line.

Head entirely black, with a few deep punctures near the eyes; the frontal tubercles small; palpi obscure fulvous; antennæ rather short, not extending to half the length of the elytra, black, the four lower joints fulvous, the third, one half longer than the second and more slender, the following joints somewhat thickened; thorax transverse, rather more than twice as broad as long, the sides rounded, slightly narrowed towards the apex, the thoracic groove sinuate, moderately deep and bounded at the sides by a perpendicular groove, the surface not visibly punctured; scutellum black; elytra rather convex, extremely finely punctured.

The very small size, the black head, scutellum and underside separates *L. Haroldi* from several nearly similarly coloured species.

Systena bifasciata, n. sp.

Testaceous; thorax finely punctured; elytra closely and finely punctured, the suture and a narrow lateral stripe, abbreviated posteriorly, piceous. — Length 2 lines.

Head scarcely visibly punctured, the frontal tubercles rather obsolete; antennæ short, testaceous, the joints stained with fuscous or entirely of that colour, the third and fourth elongate, equal; thorax twice as broad as long, the sides nearly straight, the basal groove distinct, the surface finely and rather closely punctured; elytra very closely and distinctly punctured, the suture and a longitudinal stripe at the sides, not extending to the apex, piceous; underside and legs testaceous, the posterior femora with an obscure fuscous spot near the apex.

This species seems closely allied to *S. marginalis* Illig. but differs in the shape of the thorax, which in Illiger's species is described as »scarcely broader than long", and in the black or fuscous suture of the elytra.

Diabrotica brasiliensis, n. sp.

Black; head, thorax and femora flavous; thorax bifoveolate; elytra bright metallic green, closely punctured. — Length 2 lines.

Head impunctate, flavous, the labrum (in one specimen) black; antennæ two thirds the length of the body, black, the basal joint testaceous below, the third joint twice as long as the second, but shorter than the following joints; thorax twice as broad as long, the margins nearly straight, the surface deeply transversely sulcate, impunctate; scutellum black; elytra bright green, closely and finely punctured, the interstices slightly rugose; tibiæ and tarsi as well as the underside black; femora flavous.

Luperodes brasiliensis, n. sp.

Oblong-ovate, black; the terminal joint of the antennæ yellowish; thorax yellowish-white, with a large black spot; elytra minutely granulate, pale flavous, the sutural and lateral margin and a longitudinal stripe at the sides of each, black; posterior femora whitish at the base. — Length 3 lines.

var. a. Thorax without black spot.

var. b. Thorax and elytra black, the latter with a subsutural longitudinal whitish stripe and a shorter one near the sides.

Head impunctate, black; antennæ half the length of the body, black, the last (in one specimen the two last) joint whitish, its extreme apex black, the second and third joints short, equal; thorax narrowly transverse, more than twice as broad as long, the sides straight, widened towards the base, the posterior margin rounded, the surface exceedingly finely punctured and granulate, with some obsolete depressions, yellowish white, the middle with a large elongate black spot, pointed at its lower extremity; scutellum black; elytra ovate, convex, sculptured like the thorax; if the black is taken for the ground colour, each elytron has a broad longitudinal yellowish band from the base to near the apex, placed near the suture, and another similar band of half the width near the lateral margin, generally abbreviated at some distance from the apex; underside and legs black, the femora, their apices excepted, flavous; the posterior tibiæ with a long spine; the first joint of the posterior tarsi much longer than the three following joints together; claws appendiculate; the anterior coxal cavities open.

In the variety the black occupies nearly the entire sides of the elytra, reducing the lateral flavous band to an extremely narrow and short stripe, the subsutural flavous stripe also varies in width; the thorax is either entirely black or entirely yellowish white in some specimens.